

NEWS RELEASE



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LAKE CHARLES MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

*Man with Sexual Interest in Children gets
7-years in prison and lifetime court supervision*

LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today that **EDWARD LEE DAUGHENBAUGH**, age 39, from Lake Charles, Louisiana, was sentenced to 84 months federal imprisonment (7 years) to be followed by court-supervised release for the remainder of his life for possessing child pornography. The sentence was handed down by United States District Judge Patricia Minaldi.

U.S. Attorney Washington stated, "Every single photograph, video or image of child pornography shows the face of a victimized child. As parents, we seek to provide our kids a safe and happy childhood. My office and other dedicated men and women in law enforcement will continue to help parents and to protect kids by aggressively pursuing those who exploit children to satisfy their deviant sexual needs."

DAUGHENBAUGH pled guilty in May of this year after being investigated by officers of the Lake Charles Police Department and the agents of the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

DAUGHENBAUGH downloaded between 7,000 and 8,000 child pornography images from the internet. The images included sadistic material, in which prepubescent children were being sexually assaulted by adults. DAUGHENBAUGH admitted he had been downloading child pornography for the last thirteen years. Federal agents seized DAUGHENBAUGH's computer on May 19, 2006.

During today's sentencing hearing, the defense moved for a probated sentence, stating that DAUGHENBAUGH made a mistake. In response, the government reminded the Court that the defendant had been downloading hard-core prepubescent child pornography for the last thirteen years and that he acknowledged having a sexual interest in children. The government stated that even suggesting the defendant should get probation was offensive.

This case was prosecuted under the Project Safe Childhood Initiative announced by the United States Department of Justice in February 2006. The initiative is designed to protect our children from child predators. Under this initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies join together to investigate and prosecute crimes against children facilitated through the Internet or other electronic media and communications devices and to obtain the strictest penalties available under state or federal law.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Luke Walker.

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